

Comment Form

Public Hearing January 22, 2015, Florence, AZ
Proposed UIC Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. Production Test Facility

Please provide your comments regarding the Draft Class III Underground Injection Control (UIC) Area Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. to construct and operate an in-situ copper recovery facility known as the Production Test Facility.

Please print clearly and place this sheet in the comment box. Thank you

Name:

ROBERT ADAMS

Address:

FOIA Exemption 6

Affiliation:

Comments:

I AM VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF THIS PROJECT
BECAUSE OF THE JOBS IT WILL BRING TO THE
COMMUNITY OF ARIZONA AND THE POSITIVE IMPACT
IT WILL HAVE ON THE AREA ECONOMICALLY.
ARIZONA NEEDS IT AND THIS WILL BE GREAT
FOR THE STATE.



ARIZONA MINING ASSOCIATION

916 W. Adams, Suite 2 Phoenix, AZ 85007

(602) 266-4416

January 22, 2015

Testimony for EPA Hearing for Florence Copper Permit

- For the record my name is Kelly Norton and I am the President of the Arizona Mining Association.
- I want to thank the Environmental Protection Agency for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Florence Copper
- The Arizona Mining Association represents 22 Mining Companies currently active in the state.
- In 2012 our industry had a \$4.8 Billion Economic Impact
- 65% of US Copper production came from Arizona Mines
- \$500 Million were Paid In State and Local Government Taxes
- We employed 52,100 people
 - 11,800 Direct Mining Employees
 - 40,000 Indirect Mining Employees
- Average Wage in Mining Industry in AZ is \$99,500 which is double the average wage in all other industry
- In Arizona we need to get projects like Florence Copper through the permitting phase so that we can add more of these high paying jobs
- In addition to job creation it is important to note that Florence Copper will spend est. \$208 million on Capital Improvements
- Expected to generate over \$468 million in Arizona state and local revenues and state land trust royalties.
 - \$68.5 million directly going to the Town of Florence
 - \$33.5 million directly to Pinal County
- Mining provides us with essential resources we need in our everyday life and at the rate technology is moving and the need for copper is increasing, we need to open more copper mines so we don't become dependent on other countries.
- Since the United States became a nation it has encouraged science and innovation. As a result, the United States has been the birthplace of some of the world's greatest Inventions, including the airplane, internet, microchip, laser, cellphone, refrigerator, microwave,

personal computer, LCD and LED technology, air conditioning, electric motor, ATM, and many more. All of these great inventions need copper.

- Because of the advancement of technology, mining too has evolved from small and simple operations to large and complex mining and processing systems that employ the latest in engineering technology.
- The environmental impacts of mining have also evolved through time. A better scientific understanding of the environmental impacts of mining, coupled with great advances in mining and environmental technologies, have enabled modern miners to better predict, plan for, and prevent or minimize potential adverse environmental impacts.
- The Insitu Mining process is another innovative use of technological advancement which is sweeping across our industry and which is the process by which Florence Copper will be mined. Ore deposits cannot be moved and we shouldn't fear the advancement of technology which will bring the ore out of the ground with minimal ground disturbance.
- It's important to understand that today's mining is not what it was 100 years ago. There has been more research completed on each mine site and process and there are more rules and regulations which mining companies follow before a project gets off the ground.
- Florence Copper has done their due diligence in these areas and we have every confidence that the United States Environmental Protection Agency is providing a thorough and fair review of the Florence Copper project according to their standards.
- We look forward to the approval of the Florence Copper permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Norton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kelly Norton
President, Arizona Mining Association

Comment Form

Public Hearing January 22, 2015, Florence, AZ
Proposed UIC Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. Production Test Facility

Please provide your comments regarding the Draft Class III Underground Injection Control (UIC) Area Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. to construct and operate an in-situ copper recovery facility known as the Production Test Facility.

Please print clearly and place this sheet in the comment box. Thank you

Name:

Don Amos

Address:

FOIA Exemption 6

Affiliation:

Comments:

with All the pros & Cons the best thing to do is put in the Test Facility. Then the truth will be known. Even if there was some chance sulfuric Acid could reach the water Table it would only do it good. Think About the Volume of Acid to water. It has been done here before in the past And did not contaminate the water. Is the city going to live on Snowbirds and let them run the city or do they want to grow?

My name is William Vockel. I moved to Arizona 18 months ago to live year-round in the Sun City Anthem community on the west side of Florence. Shortly after I arrived, I heard frightening stories about a new copper mine that would pollute our ground water and destroy property values. But something about the stories and their emotion-based content caused me to investigate further to get the facts. I was educated as an engineer, and my 30 plus years of practice in a variety of industries and operations gives me a facts-based orientation in analyzing situations.

I spoke with people at Florence Copper, and they gave me an extensive tour of the facility, the property, and an explanation of the local geology and the in-situ copper recovery process. I concluded, from what I have personally seen and from my understanding of the process, that Florence Copper has a well-defined, controllable process, with appropriate monitoring to assure that probability of escape of the dilute sulfuric acid is extremely small.

Although this is called a mine, it is technologically very different from what we commonly associate with mines. The standards of process control, material control, personnel and environmental safety are far above what I have seen in past years in other operations. Accountability through governmental certification, monitoring, and reporting is also much more thorough than years past.

Florence Copper offers the community significant economic benefit – well-paying jobs at the facility, tax revenues, and community support programs. Already, they are giving grants quarterly to local non-profit groups that serve people in need. They have all the characteristics of a wonderful corporate citizen.

I encourage the EPA to complete its review of the draft Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit and authorize Florence Copper to complete construction and begin operation of the Production Test Facility.

William P. Vockel

FOIA Exemption 6

FOIA Exemption 6

FOIA Exemption

FOIA Exemption 6

January 22, 2015

Comment Form

Public Hearing January 22, 2015, Florence, AZ
Proposed UIC Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. Production Test Facility

Please provide your comments regarding the Draft Class III Underground Injection Control (UIC) Area Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. to construct and operate an in-situ copper recovery facility known as the Production Test Facility.

Please print clearly and place this sheet in the comment box. Thank you

Name: Suzanne Devries
Address: Florence, AZ

Affiliation: Total Concepts

Comments:

I am writing to support the project.
I feel our town needs this company. I am
a business owner in this town for 31 years
and, more business the better for our town
and for our kids, and grand kids.

Jobs will be here for our future.
I feel that it will not harm us in
any way health wise or any other way.

The Florence Copper Project is a great asset
in our town

Thank you

Suzanne Devries

Comment Form

Public Hearing January 22, 2015, Florence, AZ
Proposed UIC Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. Production Test Facility

Please provide your comments regarding the Draft Class III Underground Injection Control (UIC) Area Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. to construct and operate an in-situ copper recovery facility known as the Production Test Facility.

Please print clearly and place this sheet in the comment box. Thank you

Name:

Chaz Smith

Address:

FOIA Exemption 6

Affiliation:

Comments:

My wife and I are owners of an 88 lot residential subdivision in the town limits of Florence. We have owned the property for 12 years. We are convinced that the in-situ copper recovery process Florence Copper contemplates is not only safe but will create a diversity in the job market in Florence and Pinal County.

I was raised in Southern Arizona in a smelter town where Phelps Dodge was the major employer. It was a clean, vibrant town that provided a wonderful environment to grow up in. When P.D. pulled out - the town failed. It is now one of the hot spots for illegal crossing of drugs and people.

My experience is that mining operations are a huge asset to a healthy, vibrant community. Florence Copper will provide healthy jobs in a community that will thrive on higher income jobs.

Ups - I am in support!!

Chaz Smith

Hello, my name is Charles Peterson and I reside at [REDACTED] FOIA Exemption 6

[REDACTED] I live here six months of the year and this is year five for me. Lord willing, I will remain here for many more. I have earned two graduate degrees in physical science from the University of Georgia as well as an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota. I concluded my professional career by designing and teaching a course in environmental education. I consider myself qualified to evaluate the proposal put forward by Florence Copper in regards to extracting copper from this earth's natural service while protecting the water supply and potential surface uses. If the statements presented by Florence Copper are factual and not enhanced I can find no reason to deny them a permit to proceed. I actually commend them for establishing a benchmark for environmental safety that all mining endeavors should be held to. Their endeavors are in stark contrast to the endeavor of some to build a monument to garbage locally called the land fill just to the west. Also their endeavors are in contrast with the gigantic pits being established to the north and northwest in an endeavor to produce more concrete and to provide material to fill in more wetlands, natural drainage areas, and flood plains. Again, they should be commended. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Comment Form

Public Hearing January 22, 2015, Florence, AZ
Proposed UIC Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. Production Test Facility

Please provide your comments regarding the Draft Class III Underground Injection Control (UIC) Area Permit for Florence Copper, Inc. to construct and operate an in-situ copper recovery facility known as the Production Test Facility.

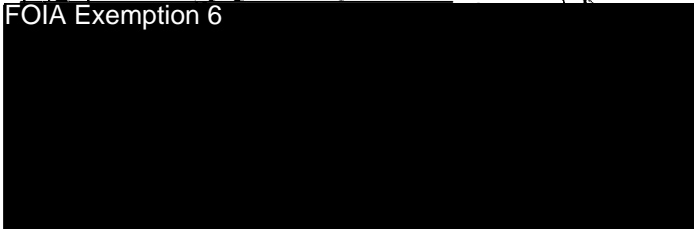
Please print clearly and place this sheet in the comment box. Thank you

Name:

Reck Baldwin

FOIA Exemption 6

Address:



Affiliation:

Comments:

** PA system so poor I could not hear most of what was said !!*

Almost a waste of time

Good evening. My name is Denise Kollert and I live in Florence. I am speaking tonight in support of the Florence Copper project as I have many times in the past. I want to thank all of you from the EPA who are here tonight being told by some you don't know what you are doing by allowing this TEST project to go forward. I am not going to tell you about the science of this project like some will do tonight because that is your area of expertise. What I will say is I have done the tour, asked questions and got answers that made sense to me. I went to the ADEQ's open house and public hearing and listened to people talk about this project like they are tonight that don't have a clue what they are saying. That is because they were given the words to say without knowledge of what they are saying. This TEST project is just that a TEST!! You do a TEST to figure out what may still need to be done to make this project even more safe. We have to have trust in our governing bodies that they will do what is in the best interest of the people or the whole process is a farce. I have that trust. Our Town had one of the best hydrologist in the country spending my tax dollars to do a study of this project. They have completely ignored this report because I guess it wasn't the results they wanted.

I have a question for all here tonight who are against this TEST project. If one of the developers who is fighting this project obtained this land some how DO YOU REALLY THINK THEY WOULD LEAVE A COPPER DEPOSIT WORTH BILLIONS in the ground and build over it?? NOT!!!! This fight I think is about the copper in the ground and who will recover it for profit not about leaving it in the ground.

Thank you

Denise Kollert

FOIA Exemption 6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]